

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 12951 141015Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-06 AID-01 /034 W
-----016833 150927Z /10

R 131640Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4195
INFO DOE WASHDC

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ENRG, OREP (ANDERSON, JOHN B.) IT
SUBJECT: CODEL ANDERSON

REF: (A) STATE 163922 (B) ROME 12225

1. SUMMARY: AT THE INVITATION OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT DEPUTY GIUSEPPE LA LOGGIA, CONGRESSMAN JOHN B. ANDERSON, RANKING MINORITY MEMBER OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, VISITED ROME JULY 5-6 FOR MEETINGS WITH SENIOR ITALIAN ENERGY OFFICIALS. BESIDES MEETING WITH LA LOGGIA AND OTHER ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON MET WITH ENEL PRESIDENT ANGELINI; FERDINANDO FOLCHI, VICE DIRECTOR FOR ENERGY, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY; GIOVANNI SIMONI, TECHNICAL ADVISOR FOR ENERGY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GIANFRANCO CASTELLI, VICE DIRECTOR RESEARCH, ENEL; RAFFAELE ROMAGNOLI, PLANNING OFFICE, ENI; AND OTHER ITALIAN ENERGY FIGURES. THE CENTER FOR REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY OF THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK (PROFESSOR BROWN) TOGETHER WITH EMBASSY STAFF COORDINATED CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON'S VISIT. IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH ITALIAN OFFICIALS, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE AND NEED FOR GREATER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ENERGY FIELD, AND IN THIS REGARD PARTICULARLY WELCOMED THE BRIEFING BY VARIOUS ENERGY OFFICIALS AND EMBASSY STAFF ON CURRENT JOINT EFFORTS TO EXPAND ITALIAN-AMERICAN

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PAGE 02 ROME 12951 141015Z

COOPERATIVE PROJECTS UNDER THE AUSPICES
OF BILATERAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP. END SUMMARY

2. CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR AND MET WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF THE MORNING OF JULY 5. THE CONGRESSMAN SUMMARIZED THE STATUS OF ENERGY LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS AS WELL AS OUTLINING THE GENERAL ENERGY

SITUATION IN THE U.S. WITH REGARD TO PASSAGE OF AN ENERGY BILL THIS YEAR, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON WAS PESSIMISTIC. AT MOST, HE PREDICTED THAT ONLY SOME OF THE LESS CONTROVERSIAL ELEMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ENERGY PACKAGE WOULD BE PASSED BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

3. LATER THE MORNING, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON, ACCOMPANIED BY PROFESSOR BROWN OF THE NEW YORK POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, REVIEWED ITALY'S GENERAL ENERGY OUTLOOK. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHICH SPECIFIC ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED.

4. IN THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 5, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON MET WITH A GROUP OF SENIOR ITALIAN ENERGY OFFICIALS (FOLCHI, SIMONI, CASTELLI, ROMAGNOLI AND OTHERS). THIS MEETING WAS SET UP BY EMBASSY TO BRIEF HIM ON NON NUCLEAR POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENTS. SIMONI (MFA) BEGAN BY SKETCHING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND PROGRAMS UNDERWAY IN THE U.S. ITALY BILATERAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP, PARTICULARLY JOINT PROJECTS ENVISAGED FOR RESEARCH IN SOLAR AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES. CASTELLI (ENEL) GAVE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF ENEL'S PROGRAMS IN NUCLEAR PLANT CONSTRUCTION AND R&D IN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES. FOLCHI (MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY) DESCRIBED IN GENERAL TERMS THE ITALIAN ENERGY SITUATION, EMPHASIZING THE CONVERSATION EFFORTS ALREADY UNDERWAY. FINALLY ROMAGNOLI (ENI) NOTED ENI'S EXPLORATION PROGRAMS OFFSHORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ROME 12951 141015Z

ITALY AND HIGHLIGHTED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ALGERIAN/TUNISIAN ITALIAN GAS PIPELINE WHICH SAIPEM (AN ENI ENGINEERING SUBSIDIARY) IS HEADING.

5. ON THE MORNING OF JULY 6, REP ANDERSON WENT TO THE LA LOGGIA, TO WITNESS THE ITALIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION BALLOTING. WHILE THERE, HE MET WITH ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM A WIDE SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS.

6. IN THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 6, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON WAS INTERVIEWED FOR THE ROME-BASED WEEKLY IL SETTIMANALE. HE ANSWERED GENERAL QUESTIONS ON THE U.S. ENERGY SITUATION AND STEPS THE UNITED STATES IS TAKING TO CURB OIL IMPORTS. HE MAINTAINED THAT CONTRARY TO THE EUROPEAN VIEW, THE UNITED STATES DOES INDEED HAVE AN ENERGY POLICY, NOTING THAT SEVERAL MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ENERGY PACKAGE HAVE ALREADY BEEN APPROVED. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY IS A VITAL ENERGY SOURCE IN THE MEDIUM TERM TO MEET PROJECTED ENERGY NEEDS. FOLLOWING THAT INTERVIEW AND LUNCH, HE LEFT ROME FOR PALERMO (SICILY) WHERE HE WAS HOSTED BY PROF. GUGGINO (POLYTECHNIC MEDITERRANEAN FOUNDATION)

THROUGH JULY 9.

7. COMMENT. EMBASSY BELIEVES CONGRESSMAN ANDERSONS
STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF GREATER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
IN DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES (HE SPECIFICALLY MENT-
IONED GASAHOL, THE ELECTRIC CAR, AND SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT).

THE CONGRESSMAN IDENTIFIED SOLAR ENERGY AS AN EXAMPLE
OF ONE AREA WHERE JOINT U.S. ITALIAN COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS
MIGHT BE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT. END COMMENT. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, CODELS, INVITATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ROME12951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780290-0836
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780764/aaaacbqd.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7c4cda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 163922, 78 ROME 12225
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2020158
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL ANDERSON
TAGS: ENRG, OREP, IT, US, (ANDERSON, JOHN B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c4cda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014